CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY	USSR	DATE OF INFORMATION	1952
SUBJECT	Economic - Agriculture		
HOW PUBLISHED	Daily newspapers; monthly, semimonthly periodicals	DATE DIST.	13 May 1952
WHERE PUBLISHED	USSR		
DATE PUBLISHED	1 - 29 Feb 1952	NO. OF PAGES	9
LANGUAGE	Russian	SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Newspapers and periodicals as indicated.

USSR AGRICULTURE INCREASES SOWN AREA, MECHANIZATION LEVEL

/Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources./

USSR

At the end of 1939, USSR agriculture had at its disposal 507,700 tractors with an aggregate horsepower of 9,696,600. /Thus the average horsepower per tractor was approximately 19.1. Tractor work in MTS has traditionally been calculated on the basis of 15-horsepower units./

In 1951, MTS performed almost two thirds of all field work in kolkhozes, including almost all plowing, sowing spring crops 72 percent, sowing winter crops 85 percent, combine harvesting of grains 63 percent, mechanized harvesting of sunflowers 81 percent, and seed grasses 60 percent. In 1951 MTS and other specialized stations performed 27.7 percent of cutting natural grasses and tame hay in kolkhozes, and stored almost one third of all silage.

In 1952, the total volume of work in MTS will be increased 11 percent over 1951. By the end of 1952, 80 percent of the entire irrigated area in the USSR will have been converted to the new system of irrigation.(1)

In 1952, MTS of the Ministry of Agriculture will perform tractor work on 38 million more hectares, in terms of soft plowing, than in 1951. The level of mechanization will be as follows: sowing spring crops 78 percent, sowing winter crops 88 percent, reaping grains 72 percent, digging sugar beets 90 percent, storing fodder 58 percent, and haying 41 percent.(2)

In the fall of 1951, kolkhozes and sovkhozes plowed 5.4 million more hectares of winter fallow than in the fall of 1950.(3)

Approximately 70 percent of the hay cut in the USSR is obtained from natural grasses.(4)

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STATE	X	NAVY	X	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION
ARMY	X	AIR	X	FBI		

Karelo-Finnish SSR

During the last 5 years [1947 - 1951 inclusive], the area sown to wheat in the republic increased 44 percent, potatoes 26.8 percent, and perennial grasses 106.4 percent.(5)

Estonian SSR

In 1951 kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the republic increased their total sown area 17 and 15 percent, respectively. MTS performed twice as much work in kolkhozes as in 1950. In 1952, kolkhozes are to increase their sown area 7-8 percent over 1951, including increases of 14 percent for wheat and 11 percent for fodder crops. In 1951, kolkhozes of the republic stored 83,000 more metric tons of ensilage than in 1950 and 24,000 more metric tons of fodder root crops.(6)

In the fall of 1951, kolkhozes of the republic increased the area they sowed to winter crops by 11 percent over 1950.(7)

In 1951, the spring sowing plan was fulfilled 99.7 percent in the republic, including 84.3 percent for flax, 94.2 percent for potatoes, and 87.8 percent for root crops. In 1952, the total sown area of the republic is to be increased 7.5 percent over 1951; this will be chiefly improved and reclaimed land. In 1952, four new MTS and one Mechanized Land-Improvement Station will be established, and the republic will receive 500 tractors, 170 self-propelled combines, and 50 flax combines.(8)

Latvian SSR

As of 1 February 1952, the republic had completed the [1951] plan for delivery of flax products to the state by 86.3 percent.(9)

At present, there are 125 MTS in the republic, 7 Mechanized Land-Improvement Stations, and 45 Land-Improvement Sections in MTS. In 1952, field work is to be 55 percent mechanized and the total sown area in the republic is to be extended 11 percent, including increases of 8.5 percent for grains, 8.7 percent for industrial crops, and 16 percent for fodder crops. In 1952, crop yields on kolkhozes are to average as follows: grains 17.5 quintals per hectare, flax fiber 4, sugar beets 200, and potatoes 160.(10)

Lithuanian SSR

Ten new MTS have been established in the republic: Dambravskaya and Lelenskaya MTS in Prenayskiy and Yeznasskiy rayons of Kaunas Oblast; Al'sedzhskaya, Varlaukskaya, and Mazheyskaya MTS in Plungeskiy, Skaudvil'skiy, and Mazheyskiy rayons of Klaypeda Oblast; Krekenavskaya, Shakinskaya, and Trishkyayskaya MTS in Ramigal'skiy, Zhagarskiy, and Kurshenskiy rayons of Shyaulyay Oblast; and Aluntskaya and Kurklyayskaya MTS in Moletskiy and Kovarskiy rayons of Vil'nyus Oblast.(11)

Belorussian SSR

During the postwar Five-Year Plan, the total sown area in the republic increased 28 percent.(12)

The following table represents percent fulfillment of the 1951 - 1952 fall-winter tractor-repair plan by oblasts of the republic:

Oblast	1 Feb (13)	5 Feb (14)	10 Feb (15)	15 Feb (16)	20 Feb (17)	25 Feb (18)
Gomel'	64.4	67.4	70.1	73.4	77.1	79.2
Mogilev	58.6	60.1	62.8	67.0	69.6	70.8
Brest	58.1	59.7	63.1	67.0	73.1	74.9
Pinsk	56.9	59.6	65.5	70.0	75.5	77.2
Bobruysk	56.3	57.7	61.6	63.3	66.6	69.0
Polotsk	56.0	57.1	62.4	64.4	68.8	70.8
Minsk	55.4	56.5	60.3	62.6	66.4	68.2
Poles'ye	55.1	58.0	67.4	69.3	73.6	76.4
Molodechno	52.9	54.0	59.4	62.7	65.8	68.1
Vitebsk	52.0	53.6	57.1	61.0	64.8	67.3
Grodno	51.0	54.0	58.5	63.1	65.9	70.8
Baranovichi	50.3	51.9	58.0	59.1	64.3	66.8

Ukrainian SSR

There are 1,334 MTS and other specialized stations in the republic. During 1951, the republic received 16,249 tractors (15-horsepower units) and 10,519 combines. Field work was 80 percent mechanized in kolkhozes in 1951, including plowing 93.2 percent, sowing 81.9 percent, and harvesting grains 51.8 percent. The 1951 plan for tractor work was fulfilled 112.3 percent by MTS of the Ministry of Agriculture Ukrainian SSR and 103.2 percent by MTS of the Ministry of Cotton Growing Ukrainian SSR. As of 10 February 1952, MTS of the republic had repaired 79.3 percent of the tractors [apparently this refers to MTS of both ministries cited above].(19)

Fiber flax is the principal industrial crop of Zhitomir Oblast. However, yields are still below the prewar level. This is mainly due to poor farming practices. For example, in 1949 mineral fertilizer was applied to fiber flax sowings at the rate of only 7.8 quintals per hectare, but in 1950 this figure declined to 7.1, and in 1951 to 6.8. Furthermore, the planting period has been consistently prolonged to an undesirable extent. In 1949, plantings of fiber flax took 18 days; in 1950, 21 days; and in 1951, 22 days; whereas the best practices dictate that plantings be completed in 6-8 days.(20)

Moldavian SSR

During the postwar Five-Year Plan, the area sown to industrial crops in the republic increased 42 percent. Grain yields increased 2.5 times during the same period. In 1951, the area sown to perennial grasses in the republic was five times that of 1948, and in the fall of 1951 kolkhozes of the republic sowed four times the area to winter crops that they did in 1947.(21) Winter grains constitute more than half the area sown to spiked grains in the republic. They provide the basic part of the gross grain harvest, but yields fell off in 1951 due to inadequate care and poor farming practices. Maize constitutes 30 percent of the area sown to grains in the republic. In 1951, kolkhozes of the republic laid out 4,023 hectares of new vineyards and 3,486 hectares of new orchards. Pledged crop yields for the republic in 1952 are as follows: winter wheat 20 quintals per hectare, maize 27, cotton 5.5, sugar beets 270, tobacco 13, sunflowers 15.5, soybeans 13, perennial grasses hay 40, annual grasses hay 30, ensilage crops 175, and fodder root crops 300.(22)

In 1950, the first year cotton was grown in the republic, the cotton procurement plan was fulfilled 125 percent by kolkhozes of the republic. In 1951, kolkhozes fulfilled the cotton-procurement plan by only 90.3 percent. In 1952, the area planted to cotton is to be increased 60 percent and the gross harvest almost doubled.(23)

As of 1 January 1952, crop rotation had not yet been introduced on 250 kolkhozes in the republic.

MTS of the republic fulfilled the 1951 plan for tractor work 108.3 percent. Twice the amount of bread grains and sunflowers were harvested with combines as in 1950.(22) In 1951, shallow plowing of stubble was carried out on 303,000 hectares; this was 2.5 times the area thus worked in 1950. In 1948, field work in the republic was 16.3 percent mechanized; in 1951, it was 68.2 percent mechanized. In 1951, MTS plowed 637,500 hectares more winter fallow than in 1947 and performed 3.5 times as much field work on kolkhozes as in 1947.

In 1951, combines were used to harvest 402,000 hectares more grain and sunflowers than in 1947.(21) In 1952, MTS will perform 20 percent more tractor work in kolkhozes than in 1951 and field work in kolkhozes will be 89.3 percent mechanized.(24)

The following table represents percent fulfillment of the 1951 - 1952 fall-winter repair plan in MTS of the republic:

Type Work	5 Feb (25)	15 Feb (26)	25 Feb (21)
Tractor repair	64.9	73.1	79.4
Combine repair	57.5	59.5	60.2

Georgian SSR

In the fall of 1951, sowings of winter wheat in the republic were extended 17 percent over 1950.(27) In 1952, kolkhozes of the republic are to procure 70,000 metric tons more silage than in 1951. MTS and other specialized stations are to cut hay on an area of 40,000 hectares and store 130,000 metric tons of silage.(28)

In the winter of 1949 - 1950, sharp drops in temperatures caused great damage to the republic citrus crop, over five sixths of which is concentrated in Adzhar ASSR.(29)

In 1948, tea factories in the republic produced 25 percent more first- and second-grade tea than in 1940.(30) In 1951, the republic gave the state 10,358 metric tons more tea than in 1950.(27) Kutaisi Oblast is the principal tea-growing region of the republic; of 25 tea-growing rayons in the republic, 18 are located in Kutaisi Oblast. This year kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the oblast are to lay out 3,340 additional hectares to tea. In 1952, the average yield of tea leaves per hectare is to reach 2,376 kilograms as compared with 2,180 kilograms per hectare in 1951.(31)

Armenian SSR

In 1951, the capacity of the republic tractor park increased 28 percent over 1950. One third of all irrigated land has been converted to the new system of irrigation. At the end of 1951, 74 percent of all kolkhozes in the republic had been electrified.(32)

From 1947 to 1951 inclusive the total sown area in the republic increased 13.1 percent, including increases of 17.5 percent for wheat, 24 percent for industrial crops, and 171 percent for fodder crops. During this period, 6,100 hectares of new vineyards and 5,280 hectares of new orchards were laid out. During the same period, grain yields increased 50 percent, cotton yields 129 percent, tobacco yields 39 percent, sugar-beet yields 20.7 percent, and grape yields 79 percent.

During the last 2 years (1950 and 1951), kolkhozes and MTS of the republic have reclaimed and cropped 70,000 hectares of new land. In 1952 the area sown to grains in the republic will be extended by 57,000 hectares; the area sown to fodder grasses will be extended by 15,000 hectares.(33)

Azerbaydzhan SSR

More than 70 percent of the total sown area in kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the republic is devoted to grains. In the fall of 1950, 107,000 more hectares were sown to winter wheat than in the fall of 1949.(34)

Airplanes will be used for supplemental fertilization of 50,000 hectares of winter wheat with mineral fertilizers in the spring of 1952.(35)

RSFSR

As of 1 February 1952, MTS of Leningrad Oblast had completed the 1951 - 1952 fall-winter tractor-repair plan 63.9 percent; on 10 February, this figure was 70.8 percent; and on 20 February, it was 78.9 percent.(36, 37, 38)

In 1952, 50,000 hectares of acidic soil in Moscow Oblast are to be limed. MTS of the oblast are to transport to kolkhoz fields 32,000 metric tons of lime, about one quarter of the total amount of lime to be applied, and they are to apply the lime to 30,000 hectares. The remainder of the lime will be transported to the fields by the kolkhozes, which will also be charged with application on the other 20,000 hectares.(39)

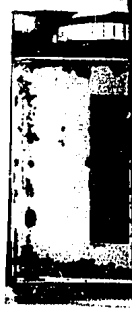
Work has been almost completed on the Shapsugskiy Water Reservoir 15 kilometers west of Krasnodar, located on the site of a former swamp. The reservoir has a surface area of 4,500 hectares and a volume capacity of 150 million cubic meters. It is designed to regulate floods on the Afips River and will supply power to a hydroelectric power plant.

Construction of the Volga-Don Canal and its accompanying irrigation system will make possible the irrigation of 762,000 hectares and the supply of water to 2.2 million hectares in the region between the two rivers.(41)

Construction of the Kuybyshev GES will make possible the irrigation of additional land in the Volga Region. Agronomists of the Bezenchuk Experiment Station have developed a new variety of spring wheat, named Bezenchukskaya 98, for sowing on irrigated land. It is distinguished by smut and rust resistance, high yields, and it does not shatter or lodge. Last year this variety was sown on kolkhoz fields in the zone of the Kutuluk Irrigation Network. At present, seed is being prepared to supply the entire area of Kuybyshev Oblast which is sown to spring wheat. The station is also sending out seed for use on irrigated areas of the Ukraine, northern Caucasus, Rostov Oblast, and Central Asia.(42)

Kazakh SSR

In 1951, MTS and Mechanized Animal Husbandry Stations of the republic performed 16 percent more tractor work than in 1950. Field work on kolkhozes of the republic was mechanized to the following extent: almost all plowing, about 75 percent of sowing, and 83 percent of grain harvesting. MTS of Alma-Ata, Taldy-Kurgan, and east Kazakhstan oblasts were poorly utilized. The plan for plowing winter fallow was fulfilled only 16 percent in Taldy-Kurgan Oblast, and 24 percent in Alma-Ata Oblast. Too many MTS leaders throughout the republic concentrate on fulfilling the gross plan for tractor work at the expense of time-consuming types of field work which have a direct bearing on yields.(43)



In 1952, 1,168,000 hectares of meadow land and 235,000 hectares of pasture land are to be temporarily irrigated with flood waters. The Council of Ministers and the TsK KP(b) Kazakh SSR have decreed that every effort be made to utilize spring flood waters for irrigation of meadow and pasture land as a means for increasing the fodder supply in the republic. At present, only 10 billion cubic meters of these waters are utilized of an estimated annual total of 30 billion cubic meters. In regions where maximum utilization of spring flood waters has been attained, yields from meadow and pasture land have increased several times.(44)

At present, there are 926,000 hectares of irrigated land in the republic. If presently known water resources were fully utilized, the irrigated area could be expanded to 3 million hectares. There are over 10,000 rivers in the republic which annually carry over 110 billion cubic meters of water. The republic contains more than 5,000 lakes with a total surface area of 20,000 cubic kilometers. In 1951, flood-water irrigation was carried out on 351,600 hectares.(45)

In 1952, the permanently irrigated area will be extended by 30,000 hectares, and conversion to the new system of irrigation will be completed on 400,000 hectares.(46)

Uzbek SSR

In 1951, the republic did not fulfill the cotton procurement plan, although it delivered more cotton to the state than in 1950. Bukhara, Fergana, and Tashkent oblasts and Kara-Kalpak ASSR fell particularly short of delivery goals. Altogether 86 rayons, 1,684 kolkhozes, and 13 sovkhozes in the republic did not fulfill the 1951 plan.

In 1951, 97 percent of all plowing on kolkhozes, 90 percent of cotton planting, and 70 percent of inter-row cultivation of cotton was mechanized. MTS of the Ministry of Cotton Growing Uzbek SSR fulfilled the plan for tractor work only 91 percent, and plans for many important types of field work were underfulfilled by a considerably wider margin.(47)

Spring field work was in full swing in Kashka-Dar'ya Valley in the first week of February 1952. Grain growers of Chirakchinskiy, Yakkobagskiy, Kammashinskiy, Guzarskiy, Karshinskiy, and other rayons have introduced the criss-cross system of sowing spring wheat and barley, which increases yields by three or more quintals per hectare.(48)

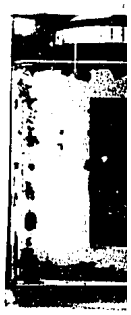
A second MTS has been established in Gurlenskiy Rayon of Khorezm Oblast. Construction was recently begun on new MTS in Shakhrisyabzskiy and Shirabadskiy rayons, and the Urmanbekskiy MTS is being built in the Shaarikhanskiy Steppe to service kolkhozes of Buzskiy Rayon. In 1952, construction of second MTS in Kaganskiy and Kosh-Kupyrskiy rayons will be started. A third MTS will be set up in Turtkul'skiy Rayon of Kara-Kalpak ASSR.(49)

Turkmen SSR

The 1951 cotton crop was 67 percent larger than the 1946 crop. In 1951, the area planted to cotton was increased 14 percent over 1950. The republic tractor park increased 60 percent from 1946 to 1951.(50)

In 1952, the total sown area in kolkhozes of the republic is to be extended 16 percent over 1951.(51)

As of 15 February, the spring sowing plan was 44.8 percent complete in the republic. Transport and application of local and mineral fertilizers are poorly organized and behind schedule. The situation is particularly bad in Mary and



Chardzhou oblasts. As of 15 February, the plan for tractor repair was 54.9 percent completed for capital repairs and 58.8 percent completed for current repairs in MTS of the republic.(52)

Tadzhik SSR

From 1947 to 1951 inclusive, the area planted to cotton in the republic increased 37.1 percent.(53) In 1952, the republic is to increase the gross cotton harvest 25 percent as the result of increased plantings and increased mechanization of field work.(54)

In 1949, the plan for planting potatoes was fulfilled 76.1 percent for the republic. In 1950, this figure was 76.2 percent. In 1951, it amounted to 72 percent.(55)

Kirgiz SSR

Rural electrification has been progressing rapidly in the republic in recent years. The capacity of rural hydroelectric power plants has increased four times over 1940 and almost three times over 1945. More than half the kolkhozes in Issyk-Kul' Oblast have been electrified.(56)

In 1951, kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the republic completed conversion to the new system of irrigation on an area of 181,000 hectares.(57)

In 1951, the area sown to industrial crops in the republic had increased 32.2 percent over 1945 and exceeded the 1940 level by 22.8 percent. In 1952, the total sown area in the republic will be considerably increased. The largest increases are scheduled for industrial and fodder crops.

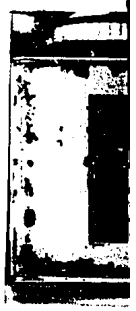
In 1951, the republic failed to fulfill the plans for delivery to the state of cotton, sugar beets, tobacco, bast crops, volatile oil crops, wool, milk, eggs, and meat.

The republic has pledged to obtain the following crop yields in 1952: winter wheat, 95 pud per hectare; spring wheat, 90; oats, 95; barley, 90; maize, 110; millet, 60; and rice, 165. Other pledged yields include cotton, 20.3 quintals per hectare; sugar beets, 400; stalk hemp, 45; gambo hemp (kenaf), 50; jute; 38; and tobacco, 11.5.

Grain growing has been neglected in the livestock rayons. Kolkhozes of these mountain rayons are not required to make grain deliveries to the state, but may keep the entire harvest for themselves. Grain in these rayons should be used to further the development of collectivized animal husbandry and livestock productivity. However, the majority of kolkhozes in these rayons receive low grain yields.

More than half the area sown to grains by kolkhozes of the republic is sown on unirrigated land.

In 1951, not one oblast in the republic fulfilled the cotton-procurement plan; Dzhalal-Abad Oblast was low, with 78.5 percent, followed by Osh Oblast with 88.2 percent and Frunze Oblast with 97.7 percent. The cotton-procurement plan for 1951 was fulfilled 83.5 percent for the republic as a whole. Of 24 cotton-growing rayons, only three, Oshskiy, Kyzyl-Askerskiy, and Kaganovichskiy, fulfilled the 1951 plan. Throughout the republic only 45 of 242 cotton-growing kolkhozes fulfilled the plan.



In 1940, the average sugar-beet yield on kolkhozes of the republic was 401 quintals per hectare. In 1951, the plan called for a sugar-beet yield of 395 quintals per hectare; however, the actual yield was 278. The principal reasons for such low yields are late planting and inadequate fertilization.

In 1951, 500 metric tons of tobacco were lost through delayed harvesting and improper drying. Tobacco drying facilities available are only 42 percent of those needed, but no new construction took place in 1951. In 1952, the republic has been delegated the task of raising tobacco yields to 11.5 quintals per hectare. This is 5 quintals more per hectare than were harvested in 1951.

Kolkhozes of Frunze Oblast did not fulfill the 1951 plan for delivery of hemp fiber, gambo hemp, and jute. Sovkhozes did not fulfill the plan for delivery of jute fiber and hemp seed. In 1952, the area sown to bast crops in kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the oblast will be considerably increased.

In 1951, of the six oblasts in the republic, only Osh Oblast fulfilled the plan for laying out orchards. The plan for planting berry patches was only 29 percent fulfilled in the republic. For several years in a row Osh and Dzhalal-Abad oblasts have not fulfilled the plans for planting pomegranates, figs, walnuts, and other subtropical crops. Previously, seed and slips were not available, but now this problem has been solved.

In 1951, not one oblast in the republic fulfilled the plan for planting potatoes and vegetables. In 1951, the plan for development of apiculture was fulfilled only 77 percent and the plan for procurement of cocoons was fulfilled 102.2 percent.

In 1952, kolkhozes of the republic must lay out 900 hectares of orchards, 400 hectares of vineyards, 50 hectares of berry patches, 15 hectares of subtropical crops, increase the number of bee swarms to 64,000, organize 130 new bee hives, and considerably increase the area planted to potatoes and vegetables. In 1952, 570 metric tons of cocoons are to be procured.

Crop rotation has not yet been introduced on 376 consolidated kolkhozes; in 1952, this work must be completed on 250 kolkhozes. Available evidence indicates that many kolkhozes which practice crop rotation systematically violate it. Of 254 kolkhozes recently surveyed, 75 were guilty of gross violations, chief among which was failure to fulfill plans for sowing grasses.

Every year kolkhozes of the republic reserve 20,000 hectares of grasses for seed stock.

The unsatisfactory agricultural production in the republic in 1951 was in large measure due to even poorer work by MTS of the republic. Of 70 MTS, only 36 fulfilled the total plan for tractor work in terms of soft plowing. MTS of the Ministry of Agriculture Kirgiz SSR fulfilled the total plan for tractor work 98 percent; MTS of the Ministry of Cotton Growing Kirgiz SSR fulfilled the plan 97 percent. In many MTS there are indications of inadequate care of tractors and agricultural machinery; breakdowns are frequent, repair work poor, and many MTS leaders do not attempt to lower the cost of tractor work, wastefully expend fuel, etc.

In 1951, the plan for irrigation of crops was 74 percent fulfilled in the republic as a whole. In 1952, conversion to the new system of irrigation must be completed on 200,000 hectares in kolkhozes and sovkhozes.(58)

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